



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/712,239	11/13/2003	Rajeev Chhabra	9103M	8603
27752	7590	04/05/2006	EXAMINER	
THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DIVISION WINTON HILL TECHNICAL CENTER - BOX 161 6110 CENTER HILL AVENUE CINCINNATI, OH 45224			TORRES VELAZQUEZ, NORCA LIZ	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		1771		
DATE MAILED: 04/05/2006				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/712,239	CHHABRA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Norca L. Torres-Velazquez	1771

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 February 2006.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) 12-17 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 13 November 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Terminal Disclaimer

1. The terminal disclaimer filed on February 03, 2006 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application, which would extend beyond the expiration date of copending Application No. 10/648,942 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.
2. Applicant's amendment of the claims and arguments, see pages 5-6 of remarks, filed January 25, 2005, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-2 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over BRENNAN et al. have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of DOBRIN et al. (US 6,383,431 B1) and over WALTON et al. (US 3,810,280).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DOBRIN et al. (US 6,383,431 B1).

DOBRIN et al. discloses a method for modifying the physical characteristics of a nonwoven fibrous web, which involves passing the web between at least one pair of interengaged rolls to incrementally stretch the web, and then withdrawing the incrementally

stretched web from between the rolls under tension. (Abstract) The reference relates to disposable absorbent articles. The reference teaches a nonwoven material with a deformation pattern in the form of ridges and grooves defining an array of spaced, diamond-shaped elements 100 with intervening un-deformed areas 102. (Col. 12, lines 2-24; Figures 10-11) Figures 10 and 11 show the patterns of the forming rolls that are transferred into the nonwoven web. It is the Examiner's interpretation that that first and second regions of the present invention would be provided by the Dobrin reference. (Refer to Figures) The reference shows in their examples nonwoven materials with basis weight ranging from 27-33 gsm and it teaches structures that comprise carded webs, spun bonded webs, SMS, among others. (Refer to Table I and Cols. 14-18) DOBRIN '431 teaches that the preferred nonwoven, fibrous web material can have an initial thickness of from about 5 mils to about 40 mils [0.1270-1.0160 mm]. (Refer to Col. 7, lines 29-30) Further, the reference teaches that the modified web thickness is from about 85% to about 400% of the initial web thickness (caliper). (Refer to Col. 3, lines 47-48)

DOBRIN is silent to locking the protruding elements in the second region by the reinforcing means of the present invention.

SMITH is directed to an embossed nonwoven fabric having a textured character and fabric-like qualities of softness and had and suitable for wiping surfaces having aqueous liquids. (Abstract) Figure 4, shows a configuration in which the embossed nonwoven fabric 26 is used for wiping or cleaning purposes and areas 22 (similar to the second portions of the present invention) are reinforced by thermal bonding. (Refer to Col. 3, lines 31-45)

Art Unit: 1771

Since both references are directed to nonwoven materials useful in the production of disposable absorbent materials the purpose disclosed by SMITH would have been recognized in the pertinent art of DOBRIN.

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the second portions of DOBRIN and provide them with thermal bonding with the motivation of enhancing the wiping and cleaning efficiency of the material by having the second portions in more intimate contact with the surface to be wiped as taught by SMITH. (Refer to Col. 3, lines 40-42)

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Norca L. Torres-Velazquez whose telephone number is 571-272-

Art Unit: 1771

1484. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 8:00-5:00 pm and alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Terrel Morris can be reached on 571-272-1478. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Norca L. Torres-Velazquez
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1771

April 3, 2006